

A Nashville dispatch to *The Gazette* gives the following official news:

"Gen. Sherman entered Jackson, Mississippi, on the 10th inst. The Rebels offered but little resistance, and falling back over Pearl River."

"It is believed that the Rebels are receiving reinforcements from Dalton."

"There is nothing new from Gen. Thomas's front."

"The veteran soldiers are rapidly returning to the army."

CAIRO, Ill., Monday, Feb. 15, 1864.

The reports from Rebel papers of a fight near Clinton, Miss., on the 4th inst., are confirmed by officers from that point.

Our troops captured the Rebel battery, and lost fifteen killed and thirty wounded.

Among the wounded is Col. Rogers of Illinois.

The enemy were driven off, and our forces proceeded toward Jackson.

CAIRO, Monday, Feb. 15, 1864.

General W. S. Smith's cavalry expedition left Memphis on the 11th inst. in the direction of Collierville. The entire line of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad was evacuated by our forces on the 13th, it having been held for the past six months merely to aid General Smith's Cavalry expedition to get a good start.

Gen. Sherman considers that the holding and guarding the road has been a source of weakness to us. He does not favor guarding railroads unless they are of vital importance.

The steamer *Mill Boy* was sunk on the 1st inst., eight miles from Jacksonport, on White River. She was laden with Government stores for the troops at Batesville. Part of the cargo was saved.

The boat was valued at \$15,000. She is a total loss.

Owing to the large amount of Government stores for Little Rock, accumulated at Duvall's Bluff, the railroads have been prohibited from transporting private freight for the present.

General Coolbaugh, formerly Captain on General McPherson's staff, now in the Mexican service, arrived here to-day as bearer of dispatches to the Juarez Government to Washington.

On the 13th Capt. Madison of the 2d Tennessee Heavy Artillery (colored) was shot through the shoulder and severely wounded, by a citizen, a short distance below Columbus, Ky.

Six citizens of the vicinity were arrested, and will be held as hostages for the man who did the shooting.

About 700 bales of cotton were shipped from Memphis on the 13th. The market is dull and drooping. Good Middlings 7½.

FROM EAST TENNESSEE.

The Rebels Stendly Advancing—A Battle at Hand near Knoxville—Our Lines Narrowing—Prisoners Taken—Rebel sympathizers Expelled—Taking the Oath—Negligence in Securing Stores.

From Our Special Correspondent.

KNOXVILLE, E. T., Feb. 1, 1864.

My letters for the week past have contained a recital of current events, which the reader will scarcely fail to interpret as the forerunner of important military operations at hand. Taking courage from their apparent successes since our troops were ordered to fall back from Dandridge, and subsequently from Strawberry Plains, the enemy has steadily advanced his cavalry and skirmishers up to and south of the French Broad River, and we are now disputing his advance along the Sevierville road. The Rebel force south of the river, cavalry and infantry, is estimated from five to seven thousand. It may prove to be twice that number. Last evening a party of Rebel cavalry ran upon our pickets stationed about two miles from town, upon the Sevierville road, near the camps of the 5th and 6th Indiana (dismounted troops) and discharged several volleys at them. They then retired, reeking in turn the best we had to give them. The object was a reconnaissance—possible to capture a few prisoners. The camps were moved further inside the lines, and nearer the defensive works on the south side of the river. The enemy will be seen, are thus taking the offensive once more, and we are acting upon the defensive.

The near presence of the enemy renders it necessary to exercise much circumspection in speaking of the disposition and movements of the troops, and to guard against the mails and individuals carrying letters are liable to be captured. Suffice it to say that important movements are on foot, and an engagement is expected within a day or two. An order was issued to-day to all the troops, to be ready for action, and those officers not already beyond the reach of Orderlies have been ordered to rejoin their commands. The troops are in motion, and the next few days will witness, in all probability, important fighting. I could say much more, but I have no more to say at present. The operations have been delayed longer than many predicted, and, on the other hand, there are sanguine people who still persist that "Mr. Longstreet" will not invest Knoxville, because he cannot find a line of communication, and that the steady advance of the Rebel forces in this direction, however, is not calculated to soothe apprehensions.

Experience has shown that the Rebels can live and thrive on small stores, and with the best and most nearly all the foraging country in their immediate rear, what should hinder the Rebel army from advancing to their old work of besieging us? Every mile they close in around us enlarges their own field of resources and increases their capacity for war. They have been ordered upon our works during the month past, and also calculated to inspire confidence that they can do very much as they please. This confidence may yet prove disastrous to them. Small squads of too advanced scouts have been questioned, and have been captured, and get, and in the present of delicacies about the farms and neighboring barn yards. Service "on right." The account, however, is pretty nearly balanced by our captures made somewhat in the same way.

We have had over 350 prisoners in the hands. Among them is usually a fair proportion of preachers or clergymen, who keep up religious exercises in the jail. These devoted Rebels make the street resound with the muffled strains of camp-meeting and other good old Methodist hymns, and with the peculiar strains of the pious old hymn called "Heavenly Love," so common down South. They say Satan is not always so bad as he is painted. I have met apparently conscientious, Christian men in the Rebel army, though they are generally crazy, and have no heart in the fight for treason and rebellion. The true Christian is always loyal. Perhaps it was some of this class who last evening were heard to sing with such emotion:

"White slave with a voice of his love,  
He will save us from all our woes,  
And prison walls will be his grave,  
If Jesus would dwell with me there."

Two of the oldest residents of Knoxville have passed away during the last fortnight, both of them having been strong sympathizers with the Rebellion, though they were advanced in life to afford much active cooperation. One of these was the Rev. Isaac Lewis, formerly a Pension Agent of the Government, when Parson Brownlow was in power, and though he was a resident of this city, he had no heart in the fight for treason and rebellion. The other, Mr. McPherson, was a wealthy and widely known. The latter died in great peace, exhorting his family with his last breath to be good and loyal citizens of the United States Government. The Rev. Mr. Lewis was a "Southern" in the extreme. His Scriptural advice to be "subject to the powers that be" was heard with such emotion:

Families sympathizing with the Rebellion continue to receive notice to take the train from time to time. It seems to me that they have been refused that privilege for each separate train.

Another exodus occurred on Wednesday. Some persons who have persisted in their rebellious course of opinion until the eleventh hour, finding themselves among those who are to be sent off, came forward to take leave. In such cases they have been refused that privilege. Some questions have arisen as to what invitations to loyalty, if any, the Administration of the President holds out to non-combatants and to women and children. Does the mere external "of disloyal sentiments"

CHATTANOOGA, Feb. 9, 1864.

The following is the latest trustworthy intelligence which I have from Dixie: (Unpublished.)

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[South Carolina.]

THE PROGRESS OF ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN MARYLAND.

From Our Own Correspondent.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 9, 1864.

Some months have passed since my last letter to THE TRIBUNE on this subject. It was, I think, in June last. Just about that time, I pulled the mask off the face of the old fossils under the lead of Maffit, then Controller of the State. They then sought to still the rising waves of Abolition by pointing what they called Union oil upon them; but instead of being what they swore it was, it proved to be Pro-Slavery venom, and the result was a storm that swept this reactionary party out of existence. You will remember how indignantly Mr. Maffit denied my impeachment of his pretended Union-Saving mongering party, but it was all in vain. I had struck the serpent, and he had been crushed. Some eighty odd thousand slaves which the Rebellion had left us. It thought that we should be smothered up. Hence Postmaster-General Blair's copperhead speech at Rockville, and many other things of the kind, to render my party odious to the public. But the people's backs were up, and they swept all before them, in spite of blarney and the most unscrupulous and malicious of the Government. The Abolitionists did not believe, at any time, from June to November, that the people of Maryland were in earnest about abolishing Slavery, and restoring to their God-given rights some eighty odd thousand slaves which the Rebellion had left us. It thought that we should be smothered up. Hence Postmaster-General Blair's copperhead speech at Rockville, and many other things of the kind, to render my party odious to the public. But the people's backs were up, and they swept all before them, in spite of blarney and the most unscrupulous and malicious of the Government. The Abolitionists did not believe, at any time, from June to November, that the people of Maryland were in earnest about abolishing Slavery, and restoring to their God-given rights some eighty odd thousand slaves which the Rebellion had left us. 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